



FISH AND GAME NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPECIAL PERMITS FOR DEER AND PIG HUNTING ON UPPER COTTONWOOD CREEK WILDLIFE AREA

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) announced today that the number of deer and/or wild pig hunters on the Upper Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area in western Merced County will be limited to up to 35 reservation holders on August 9 and 10, 2008, the first two days of the regular Zone A deer season. Reservations will be selected in a computerized drawing open to the public. Persons applying to hunt opening weekend of the Zone A Deer Season at this wildlife area will be allowed to apply for a one-day hunt. Successful applicants will receive special permits stating which day the hunter may hunt.

A valid 2008-2009 hunting license is required for all persons applying for the drawing. Persons drawn for permits who want to hunt deer are required to possess a valid Zone A deer tag. Those who are drawn and want to hunt wild pig are required to have a valid wild pig tag. Those desiring to hunt both deer and wild pig are required to have both tags. Pig hunters will be restricted to one wild pig during the two-day hunt period.

The area will be closed to all persons not holding the special permit except that each permit holder may be accompanied by no more than one observer. The observer may not possess any weapon.

Application should be made on a standard postcard listing the hunter's name, complete mailing address, 2008-09 hunting license number and which hunt day is preferred to hunt, either Saturday or Sunday; applicant may not apply for both days. Junior license holders must apply with an adult hunter. Up to four persons may apply as one party by including all the required information on one postcard. Only postcard applications will be accepted. A person's name may appear in the drawing only once; and multiple applications received will be rejected.

Mail post cards to: Department of Fish and Game, 18110 West Henry Miller Avenue, Los Banos, CA 93635. Postcards must be received in the Los Banos DFG office by Wednesday, July 9, 2008, by 10:00 a.m. The drawing will be held at that time and is open to the public. Only successful applicants will be notified by return mail.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the Los Banos Complex office at (209) 826-0463, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.